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THERE'S BEEN A FESTIVE FEEL IN THE STREETS LATELY WITH CHRISTMAS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER
社長室
SOMETHING HAPPENS
HUH?
"REDISTRIBUTION OF PERSONNEL"?

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A WEEK LATER
AND EVEN IF IT HAS TO BE NOW, WHY YOU?
WHY NOW?
HE'S A DEMON.
WE CAN'T JUST STOP WORKING
BECAUSE IT'S BEEN BUSY
I AM BOTH OVER-JOYED AND SADDENED THAT HE TRUSTS ME SO.
THAT'S WHAT DAD SAID ANYWAY.
"THE SALES DEPARTMENT WILL BE FINE WITH KUROKAWA THERE."
I GUESS I'M KIND OF RELIEVED THAT HE'S HIT SO HARD BY THIS
SO WE NEED SOMEONE WHO KNOWS COMPUTERS TO TAKE OVER FOR NOW.
THE ONE WHO JUST LEFT THE SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT TANAKA-SAN? HE HANDLED A LOT
Well, it's because I know what I'm doing
I KNOW THAT!
THE SUDDEN TRANSFERS HAVE BEEN MAKING ME UNEASY

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HM.
THE STUFF I CAN'T DO I HAVE TO FIND OTHER PEOPLE TO TAKE CARE OF
I HAVE TO TAKE OVER EVERYTHING YOU WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR
BUT ANYONE WHO'S COMPETENT HAS THEIR HANDS FULL HANDLING THEIR OWN WORK
PROBABLY BECAUSE YOU CAN HANDLE IT
IS IT REALLY THAT BAD IN SALES RIGHT NOW?
IT'S BEEN A DISASTER
OH...
So that's why he had to pull overtime on a weekend
Being a manager's tough
SO I HAVE TO LEAVE SOME HARD CASES WITH PEOPLE I DON'T TRUST
ADDING TO MY BURDEN
Is this a test?
WHAT'S WITH YOU!?
HM
IF THEY REALLY NEED TO, THEY CAN FIND SOMEONE ELSE GOOD WITH COMPUTERS
I'LL FIGURE IT OUT
FORGET IT.
rub
rub
IT HASN'T BEEN THAT LONG MAYBE I CAN TRANSFER BACK
IF IT'S REALLY THAT BAD, SAY SO
HM

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YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT?
IF I MANAGE IT ON MY OWN, I'M SCORING BROWNIE POINTS, RIGHT?
SFX: BLUSH
DINNER FIRST!
HMM
STOP THAT! WE HAVEN'T EVEN HAD DINNER!
Stop that!
SO, HE'S WORKING ON HAVING DAD ACCEPT OUR RELATIONSHIP?
I had to learn a lot of stuff in exchange for inquiring out.
OH BECAUSE MY MOM WAS BEING A NAG ABOUT IT
Whatever.
SHE WAS WORRIED YOU'D STARVE ON YOUR OWN?
Oh hey
Yeah.
HOW IS IT THAT YOU KNOW HOW TO COOK?
DID YOU LEARN FROM SOMEWHERE?

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HEY!
I GUESS IT'S THANKS TO HER THAT I HAVE IT SO GREAT NOW
You should let me thanking me.
Thanks Mr. Shimano
I'M SERIOUS
IT'S BEEN REALLY HARD ON ME LATELY WITHOUT YOU AROUND
Eating instant noodles by myself
WHAT YOU WANT ME TO MAKE YOU MISO SOUP EVERY DAY?
HM?
You can just come to my place!
And it's closer to work here!
Is- is that why you won't come over!? The cockroaches!?
I even gave you a spare key
We can just hide if Dad shows up
No!
WITH CHRISTMAS..
RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER
LIVE WITH ME?
OH YEAH, YOU CAN MOVE IN!
I'm not living somewhere with cockroaches year round!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING? NO WAY!
I was just saying!
Y-YOU IDIOT! I'M JUST JOKING!
I can't come here all the time because the boss shows up

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I'M NOT THE TYPE TO TELL DAD ANYTHING
Hehen
AND WITH YOU AROUND, EVERYONE'S BEEN REALLY FOCUSING
I MEAN, OH, NOT THAT
I JUST HOPE I'M HELPING
NO PROBLEM I WAS READY FOR IT
SORRY THAT IT'S SO BUSY EVEN THOUGH YOU JUST TRANSFERRED
YOU'VE BEEN A LIFESAVER!
Being a manager is tough...
THEY'VE ALWAYS BEEN ENVIOUS OF THE GIRLS IN SALES
THEY'VE BEEN SHOWING UP ON TIME AND NOT EVEN COMPLAINING ABOUT OVERTIME
HUH? THEY WEREN'T LIKE THIS BEFORE?
ARMY OF VALLEY GIRLS
What is it?
Really?
IT'S DIFFERENT WORKING WITH A HANDSOME BOY LIKE YOU ESPECIALLY HERE WITH THOSE GIRLS
Oh, he's looking over here.
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS
HAHAHA
WE ONLY SEE THE PEOPLE IN SALES DURING DINNERS AND MEET-UPS
I wonder what they would think if they found out about us.
AND KUROKAWA-KUN'S THERE TOO
BA-DUMP

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THE SALES PEOPLE DON'T USUALLY STAY IN THE BUILDING, AND HAVE MORE FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES
NOT LIKE US HERE IN SYSTEMS WHO ARE ALWAYS IN THE OFFICE
Shimura building
Meeting Rooms
Systems
Planning
Sales
Others
OUR DEPARTMENTS ARE ON DIFFERENT FLOORS
IF THERE'S NO OVERLAP IN WORK WE BASICALLY DON'T RUN INTO EACH OTHER
WHAT'S WITH THIS WEEK?
OKAY, OKAY
It's not like I want to go.
AND NOW OF ALL TIMES
SO WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER IN A WEEK
YOU HAVE MORE STUFF TO TAKE CARE OF?
It's freezing out here! I wish I was there now!
I'M NICE AND TOASTY
Hehee
There's a heater right here.
Whaat!?
SO THE WEEKEND
Meeting clients
I wish it would snow so we could cancel.
In the south
OVER GOLF? WHERE? WHAT IF IT SNOWS?

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I'M BUSY TOO YOU KNOW! DON'T GET SICK.
Huh?
GOOD-BYE.
Okay?
If I catch a cold, why don't you come take care of me?
LONELY OLD MAN.
OKAY DON'T CATCH COLD
Okay, I gotta go.
"MOVE IN WITH ME."
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'LL ACTUALLY GET SICK ANYWAY!
ME? GO TAKE CARE OF YOU?
beep
I DON'T WANT ITO BE DISTRACTED WHEN I'M WORKING
I don't have time for his joking around.
HE HAS TO BE JOKING!
distracted

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I HAVE A GIRLFRIEND NOW?
UH, SHE'S BUSY
WHAT ABOUT YOUR GIRL-FRIEND!?
Hah..!?
Count back to work, all of you!
IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T WANT TO HAVE PLANS...
BUT I GOT CUT OFF BEFORE I COULD EVEN ASK...
I'm going to be away until Friday.
If it drags on I might not be back until Saturday
OH
OH WELL... IT'S JUST A BIRTHDAY...
EVEN IF I TOLD HIM HE PROBABLY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CELEBRATE WITH ME...
THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT IT. I WONDER IF WE'LL GET TO SEE EACH OTHER IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.
Is it really okay?
Sure. If he's really eating alone.
WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?
COMPARED TO PHONE CALLS...

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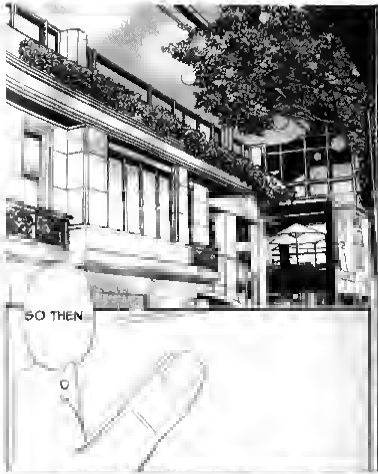

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AND THEN GET THE REPORT DONE
AND I'M FINALLY FINISHED!
TAKE THIS TO Y CORP...
COULD IT BE THE BOSS FOUND OUT?
Bump
OH EXCUSE ME
I JUST WANT TO GET HOME!
DAMNIT, ALL THESE GODDAMN PARTYGOERS!
MENU
Merry Xmas!

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pfft
WHAT THE HELL...?
THAT'S RIGHT, I'M NOT DONE TALKING TO YOU YET!
ME? LEAVE?
I HAVEN'T GIVEN UP ON SHIMANO-SAN, YOU KNOW!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO AWAY?
I WOULD LEAVE EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T TELL ME TO.
Why can't I leave?
Mayu
WHY ARE YOU HERE PUTTING A DAMPER ON MY SHOPPING TIME?
Why!?
Being annoying

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HEY
YOU? BETTER THAN ME?
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT I'M THE BETTER PICK!
HUH!? WHY ARE YOU SO PERSISTANT? GIVE IT UP!
You're so annoying!
YOU MUST HAVE TRICKED SHIMANO-SAN SOMEHOW!
Did you put something in his food?
THOSE ARE SOME ACTING SKILLS YOU HAVE
Women are scary
SHUT UP! I'M GIVING IT MY ALL OKAY!?
WHAT OF IT?
SO THESE ARE YOUR TRUE COLOURS, RIGHT?
Nagging and annoying
I WAS AN IDIOT, DRESSING UP LIKE A PROPER RICH GIRL LIKE IT WAS COS-PLAY
IN THE END IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HOW I LOOKED!
Cosplay?

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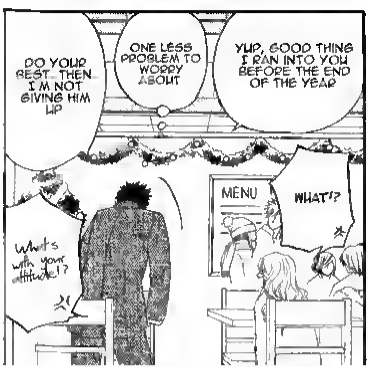
IF YOU COMPLAINED TO YOUR PARENTS ABOUT LAST TIME—
WELL, THANK GOD FOR THAT
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!?
WE'D BE IN BIG TROUBLE
I WOULD NEVER DO THAT!


DO YOUR BEST. THEN I'M NOT GIVING HIM UP
ONE LESS PROBLEM TO WORRY ABOUT
YUP. GOOD THING I RAN INTO YOU BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR
MENU
WHAT!?
What's with your attitude!?

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HE'S PROBABLY COMING OVER AFTER WORK THE 24TH
A CHRISTMAS PRESENT? GOOD FOR YOU
MENU
No!
HIS BIRTHDAY PRESENT? I FOUND SOMETHING PERFECT!
THAT'S FINE. JUST YOU WAIT
ONCE I GIVE SHIMANO-SAN HIS PRESENT
HE'LL DEFINITELY COME AROUND
Seems like you didn't get anything ready
BIRTHDAY? WHOSE?
SHIMANO-SAN'S! IT'S TODAY

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WHY FLOWERS!?
HOW DID YOU KNOW!?
And why are you running!?
You rang into Tenjin-chan!?
Tenjin told me.
I couldn't catch a taxi
I CALLED
BIRTHDAY-OOF
I HAVE A STITCH IN MY SIDE...
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME SOONER!?
I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO GIVE YOU
TO SEE WHAT YOU WANTED, BUT YOU DIDN'T PICK UP.
AND IT'S SO LATE THAT ALL THE STORES ARE CLOSED.

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IN THE END THEY ALL JUST VANISH
AND THERE'S SO MUCH JOY EVEN IN AN ORDINARY DAY
HOW SHOULD WE CELEBRATE HIS BIRTH-DAY NEXT YEAR?
HM?
It was a surprise that he'd think it was so important
NOT EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING THIS AMAZING
THAT'S WHAT I THINK
Come to think of it why not my place?
Why isn't he back yet?
I'm out of this flat

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HE PROBABLY HAS SOME ISSUES AROUND IT
HMM, BIRTHDAY?
OH, I GET IT
It's just a coincidence.
I FINALLY EXPLODED ON MY BIRTHDAY AFTER THAT WORKAHOLIC KEPT BLOWING ME OFF
Haha
SIMILAR SITUATIONS
Hahaha
THE DAY I FINALLY LEFT HIM WAS MY BIRTHDAY
OH?
Don't be shy!
HEY!
Stop making fun of me.
Sheesh, I guess he's learned his lesson...
YOU CAN REALLY TELL HOW MUCH HE LOVES YOU!
BUT YOU KNOW, I REALLY DIDN'T THINK HE'D RUSH STRAIGHT HOME LIKE THAT
?
SAEKO-SAN

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WHAT ARE YOU SO JEALOUS ABOUT?
clap
OKAY, OKAY, I'M NOT TAKING HIM FROM YOU
HEY!
QUIT WHISPERING AND HELP OUT!
DON'T YOU MEAN PLEASE HELP OUT?
WHAT'S WITH HER!?
AREN'T YOU GOING TO DENY IT?

SFX TADA

brand new apartment in a good neighborhood
ど!!ーーん
OH BECAUSE
WHY DID YOU WANT TO MOVE ALL OF A SUDDEN?
NOTHING MUCH
WHAT WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
BUT

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NO.
WHAT?
YOUR OLD PLACE LEAKS?
WELL, I WAS THINKING THAT THIS WINTER WAS GOING TO BE TOUGH TO GET THROUGH
To have you over here.
SO I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A PLACE THAT YOU'D WANT TO LIVE IN
AREN'T YOU ALWAYS SAYING THAT IT'S DIRTY THERE?
THAT'S IT
Why else?
THAT'S IT...?
You could have moved in...
YOU CAN COME ANY-TIME
IT'S NICE HERE
IT'S CLOSE TO WORK, AND THE PARKING LOT'S BIG
blush
I'm not a king
You're not picky enough
IF I WAS ALONE A ROOF AND A BED WOULD BE ENOUGH
WHY IS IT THAT YOUR LIFE SEEMS TO...

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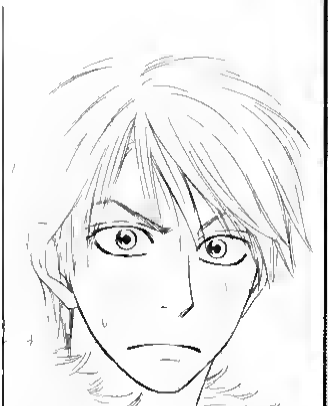

MAYBE FROM THE SECOND WE MET, IT WAS MEANT TO BE

THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WOULD BECOME LIKE THIS

End

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